

The species is included here for purpose of correct identity and nomenclature of our material. Vartak and Ghate (1983) reported it from Goa and Thana, under *S. annularis*. In Blatter Herbarium there are specimens from Borivli, near Bombay.

Exsiccata: R. R. Fernandez — 2652, 2665-6.

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35. *OIANTHUS DISCIFLORUS* HOOK. F. — A LITTLE KNOWN
TAXON FROM PENINSULAR INDIA

(With a text-figure)

During the intensive exploration of the plant wealth of Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh, a little known taxon was collected and was identified as *Oianthus disciflorus* Hook. f. of the family Asclepiadaceae. The species is very poorly represented in Indian Herbaria. There are only two specimens at MH collected on 31-8-1917 in Ramanapenta in Kurnool district. Perhaps this taxon is endemic to Kurnool district. Although Hook. f. in Flora of British India mentioned that the species occurs in Western peninsula, he was not sure about the area of occurrence and suggested the Konkan. The species is not reported in the Flora of Madras Presidency.

A short description with line diagrams are given to facilitate identification of the plant.

Oianthus disciflorus Hook. f. in Fl. Brit.

India 4: 49. 1883. (Fig. 1)

Twining undershrubs, branches glabrous, pubescent when young. Leaves opposite, ovate, ovate-oblong or elliptic-oblong, 3-7 × 1.5-5 cm, acute, glabrous above, minutes pubescent below, entire, base cordate, petioles 1-2.5 cm long, pubescent. Flowers pale violet with pink inside in axillary cymes. Calyx lobes 5, divided nearly to the base, lobes equal, ovate, imbricate, 0.4 × 0.2 cm, sparsely pubescent below, obtuse. Corolla disciform, vertically depressed, 5-lobed purplish pink with in, divided to the mid half, 1 × 0.5 cm, obtuse, corona adnate to the staminal column. Pollinia pendulous, pollinial bags oblong, 1.5 × 0.4 mm, caudicle 1 mm long, corpusculum 0.4 mm long. Ovary globose — oblong, 4 mm long, placenta bifurcate. Follicles not seen.

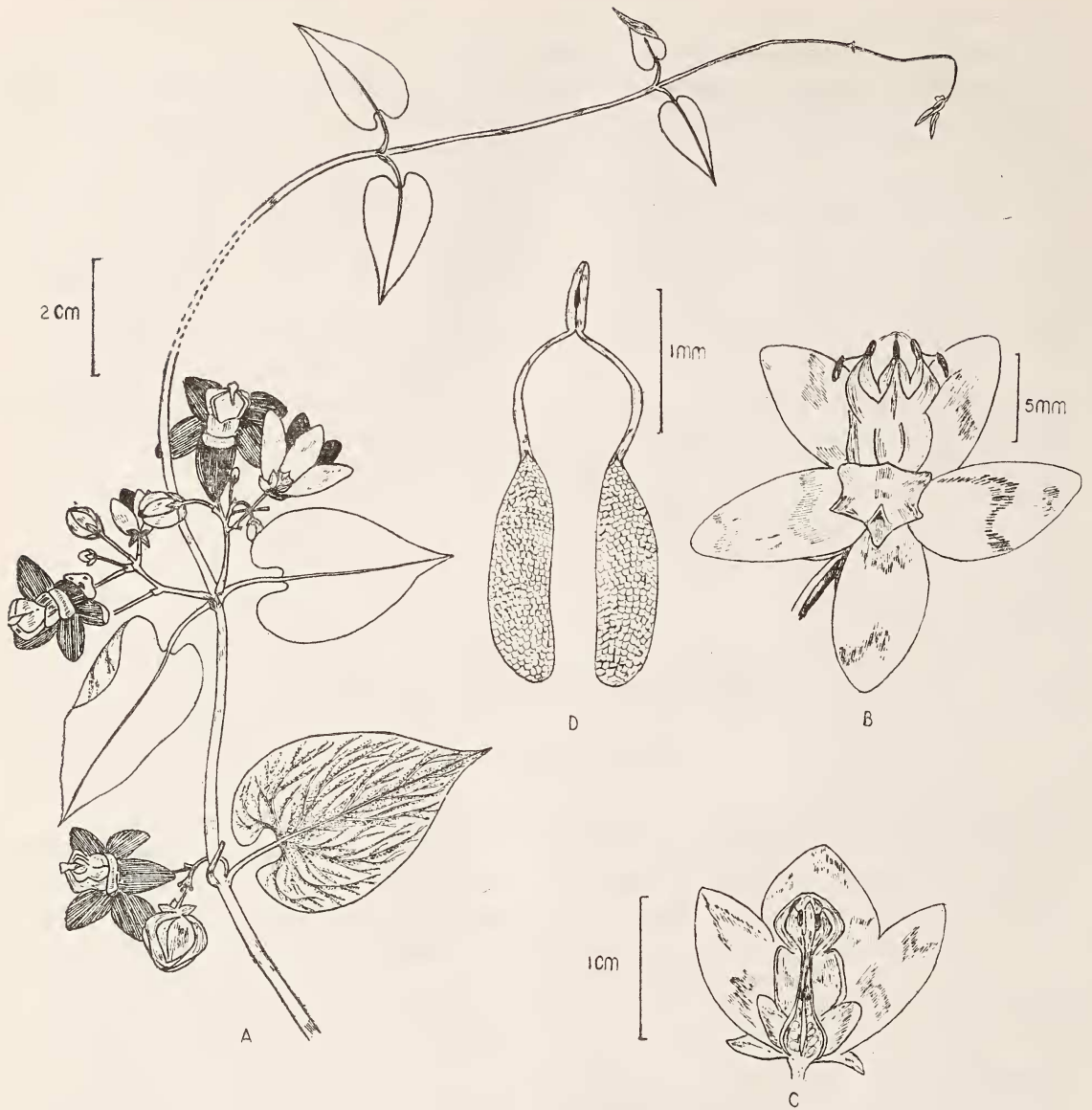


Fig. 1. *Oianthus disciflorus* Hook. f.
A. Twig. B. Flower. C. L.S. of flower. D. Pollinia.

Fl.: July-October.

Distribution: Rare in forests.

Specimens examined: RVR 2522 collected

from North Dhone RF on 13-9-1984, housed
in SKU and MH.

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